based on merit of each suggestion, necessary changes arc effected in tax structure from time to time in the overall interest of the industry.

Establishment of Technology Mission on Wool

2609. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to establish Technology Mission on Wool for development of the Woollen Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to develop woollen sector into a main source for earning foreign exchange and at the same time for generating employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the recommendations contained in the 43rd Report of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce and the Report of the Working Group <>n Textiles & Jute industry for the Tenth Five Year Plan for setting up of a Technology Mission for improvement of Indian wool, the Government has initiated action to launch a Technology Mission on Wool in the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) Apart from the various schemes being administered by the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur and the State Governments for the development of wool and woollen products, fresh programmes for the development of specialty fibres such as Pashmina and Angora have started. The Woollen Industry would also benefit from measures taken or initiated for the modernization & growth of the Textile Industry as a whole, such as the Technology Upgradation Fund scheme, the dcrcscrvation of the garment sector. the increase in limits of investment for small scale units in knitwear sector, the Integrated Apparel Parks scheme, the scheme for development of critical infrastructure in Export-Oriented Clusters etc.